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RIDICULES FRANCO'S EFFORTS FOR US ASSISTANCE

Commenting on Spain's efforts to obtain economic assistance from the US, the Tehran daily newspaper Veradznound of 16 December 1952 wrote as follows:

A few months ago, Dictator Franco asked for economic assistance from the US. He was told that economic aid is given only to countries threatened by Communism. Franco then contacted the Italian Prime Minister, asking him to export a few hundred Communists to Spain. Being extremely shrewd, Franco believed that the unrest caused by these few Communists would qualify Spain to receive US dollars. However, the Prime Minister of Italy refused to fulfill the request, stating that Italy is in need of that commodity for the same purpose.

If Franco had made this request to Dr Mossadeq, he would have been successful in securing his Communists, because the Iranian government would have been delighted to find some way of getting rid of a few hundred of its Communists.

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